CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT MARFORD MILL, ROSSETT, WREXHAM, ON THURSDAY 16TH OCTOBER, 2008

Present: Robert Irvine Chairman

Simon Breasley Walter Cole John Dryden Lee Freeston

Andrew Macfarlane Peter Pursglove Michael Sherman John Thornley

Ex-Officio John Swift Chief Executive

Members Philippa Bursey Director of Business Management

Glynn Cook Director, Wales

Christopher Graffius Director of Communications

Simon Hamlyn Director of Operations Roger Pollen Director, Northern Ireland

In attendance Tim Russell Agenda Item B.2

Minute Secretary Amanda Forshaw

A.1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Michael Alldis, Jan Andrews, Robert Crofts, Paul Culley, Mike Robinson, Colin Shedden, Ray Walters and Tom Wylie.

A.2 <u>To confirm Confidential agenda items.</u>

It was noted that Agenda Item C5 should be regarded as confidential.

A.3. Declaration of Interests

Lee Freeston, Simon Hamlyn and John Swift declared an interest in Agenda Item B2.

Philippa Bursey, Glynn Cook, Christopher Graffius, Simon Hamlyn and John Swift declared an interest in Agenda Item B4.

A.4. To confirm the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 18th September, 2008.

The minutes of the meeting having been circulated were approved as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

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A.5. To take matters arising from the meeting held on 18th September, 2008

It was agreed that "Council review of the objects of the organisation" was an additional item to be included for action.

A.5.1 To receive a report on the Communications Centre

It was noted that work on the tender documents will be completed within the next seven to ten days. Tenders for the building of a timber framed construction have been submitted and will be assessed in parallel with the costs for a conventional building structure.

A6. To take the action points from the 18th September, 2008

A.6.1. WHT New Development Plan Item on main agenda.

A.6.2. <u>Structure, Role and Function of Principal Officers, Council and</u> Committees

A special meeting of Council was held on Wednesday 15th October, 2008, at which governance matters were discussed. A paper regarding organisational structure has been circulated to Council Members for discussion at the November meeting of Council. The matter of Training & Education will be considered in the January or February 2009 Council Meeting.

A.6.6. <u>BASC Forward Plan</u> Item on main agenda

B.1. To decide action points arising from the Extraordinary General Meeting held on 18th September, 2008.

It was noted that the agreed rule changes had been submitted to the Registrar of Friendly Societies for approval and registration.

B.2. <u>To receive a progress report on the new Development Plan from WHT Trustees. (Tim Russell in attendance)</u>

Council received and acknowledged a report on the work and progress of the Wildlife Habitat Trusts over the preceding year. It was agreed that a further report together with a business plan covering a 3 - 5 year period will be presented to Council in October 2009.

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It was agreed that a letter from Council should be sent to Diane McKenzie thanking her for everything she has done for the WHT over many years.

B.3 To receive a progress report on the BASC Forward Plan and headline achievements in the principal areas of BASC activity in the year to date.

Council received an oral progress report on the BASC Forward Plan from the Chief Executive.

It was agreed that it would be useful for everyone within the organisation to be provided with a brief written statement of BASC's high-level aims and vision.

B.4 To approve receive an update on progress of the Group Personal Pension Plan

The Director of Business Management provided an oral report on the Group Personal Pension Plan and on the successful winding-up of the definedcontribution, occupational pension scheme that it had replaced.

B.5 To receive a report on Membership Retention

Council received an oral report from the Director of Communications on membership retention and the research undertaken by Halls Consultancy. Noting the important business decision that it represents, consideration was being given to all the implications of introducing and options for incentivising a phased direct debit payment option.

C.1. To receive the Minutes of Advisory Committees

C.1.1. To note the Minutes of the Gamekeepers' Advisory Committee meeting - 27th August, 2008.

There were no recommendations to Council.

The Minutes of the Gamekeepers' Advisory Committee were noted.



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C.2. To approve the Chairman's Activities Report.

The Chairman's activity report had been circulated to Council and was accepted as presented.

C.3 <u>To take the Chief Executive's Report</u>

The Chief Executive's report had been circulated to Council and was accepted as presented. Council agreed that it would be necessary to consider the implications for the organisation of the current economic situation. It was noted that the Chief Executive will be attending a meeting with the Deer Commission for Scotland and will provide feedback to the November meeting of Council.

C.4. To take the Director of Communications 'Report

The Director of Communications presented an oral report to Council.

It was noted that the party conference season had been very successful. In terms of press, plans in relation to video production, particularly for the website, were being further developed. Membership marketing targets had been exceeded for the year to date but, due to the economic climate, some caution was expressed in respect of the immediate future. Work on the new BASC website was progressing; its launch was scheduled for March 2009. A proposal that Archant should invest in the publishing of *Shooting & Conservation* as a monthly magazine was being considered by their board. Council would be advised of the outcome in due course.

The Director of Communication's Report was accepted as presented.

C.5 To take the Director of Business Management's report

The Director of Business Management's report had been circulated to Council and was accepted as presented.

C7. To take the Director of Operations' Report

The Director of Operations' report had been circulated to Council. It was noted that there has been a change in responsibility for the organisation of BASC's presence at the CLA Game Fair. This is now the responsibility of the Director of Operations. It was also noted that Steve Bloomfield has been successful in securing sponsorship over three years for the BASC Gamekeepers' Fair.

The Director of Operations' Report was accepted as presented.

D1. To take Any Other Business by leave of the Chairman



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- 1. Roger Pollen extended thanks to Robert Crofts, Robert Irvine and John Swift for their attendance at the Northern Ireland Centenary Dinner. Thanks were also extended to Mike Sherman and Peter Pursglove for their donations of shooting opportunities for the fundraising auction.
- 2. BASC's 50% share of the profit from the Welsh Game Ball held jointly with the Game Conservancy on 4th October, 2008 will be applied towards funding the North Wales Green Shoots project.
- 3. It was noted that neither the Chairman nor the Chief Executive had been able to attend the meeting of the Shoot Summit in September 2008; they had been represented by Christopher Graffius and John Harradine.
- 4. A response only statement is in preparation with regard to the issue of lead in game meat.

D.2. Date of Next Meeting

It was confirmed that the next meeting of Council will be on Thursday 27th November, 2008, at 9.30 am.

This will be preceded by a meeting of elected Council members only at 9.00 am.

Signed	Date
Chair	man

